

# THE AMERICAN LIBRARY JOURNAL.

*"If such an organization [of Librarians] could be created upon a solid basis without ostentation, and without attempting to achieve too much, some, at all events, of the difficulties which beset appointments, under circumstances such as have been glanced at, would be put in a way of removal. In proportion as the number of Public Libraries shall increase and as the public concern in them shall be broadened, both the means and the desirableness of creating a Librarians' Association will, in all probability, enhance themselves. . . . but unless an association bring with it increased means of systematic study, and of public evidence of the fruits of study, no result of much worth can be looked for."—EDWARD EDWARDS.*

## HOW TO START LIBRARIES IN SMALL TOWNS.—VI.

BY A. M. PENDLETON.

WHEN the plan has been carried to the point with which the last number closed, the enthusiasm for the library will be found perceptibly to have abated. The newness of the enterprise will have worn off. The spasmodic readers will have relapsed into their usual mental condition. A good many others will be of the opinion that they have books enough, and that it is unnecessary to get more or do more until these have been read.

We come now to the first crisis in the history of the library. Hitherto it has been easy to succeed, but it is just here that many such libraries as we are considering begin to run down, and not remotely to become thoroughly worthless. And of all worthless things there is no more disheartening nuisance than a dead library. A dreary array of dirty novels with the beginning and end torn out, odd volumes of patent-office reports, and a few religious works that suggest, by the law of association, Hervey's "Meditations among the tombs,"—this, with variations for the worse, is the story of them all. We have known of several library enterprises started with zeal, and promising well for the future, but which for lack of right management came to such an end, disheartening effort for the future and being a constant reproach to those who allowed their mortal remains to lie unburied. The first hint of such a pos-

sible result is a good time to consider how your library is to be managed and supported so as to be a permanent institution.

A common way is to organize a club or association which elects its own officers, and whose members pay a small annual assessment for its support. This, if the membership is large enough, may answer the purpose. There are, however, two objections to it. The first is that the classes who most need to be induced to read either cannot or will not afford the necessary annual payment. The practical result is that the poor, and especially the children of the poor, are shut out. And thus the sense in which it is a public library is greatly narrowed. Secondly, it requires in a small town an amount of personal effort to keep up the subscription from year to year which few persons are willing to make. The members are slow to attend the necessary business meetings, and in the course of a few years the undertaking is found to languish. The history of most proprietary libraries is a period of interest followed by indifference; then spasms of renewed attention, and at length the meagre collection of worn and neglected books just described, and which very properly no one cares for.

In the second number of this series it was suggested that one half of the sum raised for the start be put in the savings-

banks. It was to provide against such a contingency. A fund of even one thousand dollars, safely invested, will prevent the library from going to decay, and also keep up an interest in it by means of the new books which its income will purchase. Especially will this be true if pains be taken to increase it by the common ways in which money is raised for public purposes, such as fairs, tea-parties, and dramatic entertainments. Former residents of the town also, some of whom may have become rich, would very likely, if applied to by the right person, contribute toward the increase of a permanent fund.

When the proprietary or association plan has been tried to the period of indifference, and the library survives, the next step is ordinarily to give it up to the control of the town. A permanent maintenance is thus secured, but probably the amount will be quite small. Few towns recognize the importance of a liberal support to a library. Usually at town meetings a spasm of economy is felt all round, and educational interests, like churches, are the first to suffer in hard times. Though the complaint be general that books desired are not obtainable, and though a catalogue be imperatively needed, it is not easy to obtain adequate appropriations therefor. The librarian will also be meagrely paid, and will probably render little more service than to give out the books and check them on their return. We know of one town that annually sells the office of librarian to the lowest bidder. This is to offer a premium for inefficiency and poor work.

The plan we prefer covers the best features of both the preceding. As in hospitals and various philanthropies it is found that the most efficient service is obtained by partly paid and partly volunteer workers—salaried officials who are responsible for the main work, and helpers led by love of humanity to do what no hired servants can in the long run be relied upon to per-

form, so we would have libraries supported mainly by towns in their corporate capacity, but managed chiefly by those who best know what books are and how to use them, out of simple love of the service. A good illustration of what a library so conducted may be is found in Concord, Mass. It is controlled by five permanent trustees, four of whom must be residents of the town. Efficiency is secured by empowering any four of them to remove the fifth in case he cannot or will not perform his duties, and to appoint a competent person to fill his place; or if they fail to do it, the Probate Court is charged with the duty. The town elects, subject, practically if not formally, to the nomination of these trustees, an annual committee to attend to detail work. It also makes a yearly appropriation, which, with the income of invested funds, constitutes its support.

The entire control of the library, its noble building, and funded property, is thus in the hands of a small permanent body, chosen with reference to their fitness, and not to their political or church relations. Their action is not dependent upon the caprices of a popular assembly, nor their tenure of office upon an annual election, nor is it necessary for them to wrangle with self-willed or ignorant selectmen in order to accomplish trifling improvements.

It is not often indeed that any town, large or small, could have a Ralph Waldo Emerson and a Judge Hoar upon its board of trustees, but in nearly every town there are some lovers of books whose joy it would be to make a library a success if the responsibility were laid upon them.

The management being retained by permanent trustees, the use of the library may be given to the town upon the condition of an annual appropriation satisfactory to both parties. Here, as before, the reserved fund may play an important part. The larger it is the more advantageous the terms that may be made with the town.

## THE COMING CATALOGUE.

BY MELVIL DWEY.

CO-OPERATION has become among librarians a household word during the past year. Under this name much valuable work has been done already, and there is abundant promise of much more. The Co-operation Committee, in their supply department, now fairly started, have furnished better models at greatly reduced prices, and the libraries have accepted heartily the proffered assistance. This department of library co-operation is an assured success, and much vexation and money are to be saved.

An equal measure of success seems probable for Poole's Index and its annual supplements, and in a number of directions new life and efficiency have resulted from the work of the year so happily begun by the conference of '76. While we have so much with which to be satisfied, there has been less progress in what seemed the main question—co-operative cataloguing. Here the greatest need was felt, and to this most of the profession look for the greatest benefit. The September meeting will probably remove the first difficulties, by agreeing upon a code of rules by which the titles in any system shall be made. This decided, we are ready for the question, Who shall prepare the titles of new books as published? The Library of Congress or its copyright department? The publishers themselves? A cataloguing bureau, established and maintained by the libraries of the country? An individual or firm, as a commercial venture? There are arguments for and against each one of them, but these will appear when the discussion of the plan is opened. "What shall be done with the old books?" takes precedence of all this, and the best plan for new titles cannot be of very great service till we agree upon something for the old.

A universal catalogue has received thought, and its desirability for certain purposes has been clearly pointed out, but there are very few of us who feel that the time is near when we can profitably discuss plans for making such a catalogue. In a word, common consent leaves the universal catalogue among the impracticables for a considerable time at least, and it is an open question whether a list of all the books, good, bad, and indifferent, would be of as much value, except in very rare cases, as a list from which 95 per cent of the poorest had been omitted. However this may be decided, it is clear that only a select list is possible to us now, and the plan proposed aims to give in the possible selection a much more valuable work than the impossible, or at least impracticable, universal catalogue.

While lists of book-titles serve many excellent purposes, something more than the mere title is imperatively demanded. The ordinary bibliography of a subject to which readers are referred is likely to consist of an alphabetical or perhaps chronological list of titles, in number anywhere from a dozen to several thousands, and without any indication as to which are the best and which are the poorest, except as one may infer from the dates of issue, the number of editions, chance knowledge of the reputation of the author, and such information (often misleading) as the title-page affords. If the reader knows in advance which the best books are, he has, except in special cases, no need to consult the bibliography. If he knows nothing about it, as is so often the case, he puts down the book overwhelmed by the multitude of the titles. He was unable to select from the half-dozen books of which he knew, because he was not sure which was

the best. He went to the bibliography to help him, and must now choose from the six hundred volumes instead of six, and has not an added hint as to which is the best for his purposes. And yet with all these deficiencies, bibliography has been of service so great as to call forth the eulogies of scholars. Even as it is, it has been of priceless worth. If the difficulties pointed out can be removed, who can measure its usefulness?

A serious difficulty in bibliographies, as in all other books of reference of limited sale, is the infrequency of revision and bringing up to date. If sufficient means were provided by publisher, public, or Association, there would be no difficulty in keeping up bibliographies (book-titles only) of all the prominent subjects; and if nothing better could be done, it would be well worth the attention of the Library Association to devise a system of bibliographies of special subjects in the same way that class lists are issued by our best libraries, instead of attempting a full catalogue. But the titles are not enough; they should be followed by notes, giving, in the fewest possible words, a clear idea of the merits and faults of the book, its reliability, form of treatment, etc. The reception accorded to these notes in some of the best of our recent catalogues proves clearly how valuable they are to the general reader. Theory and experience agree that when from a trustworthy source, they are of more service to a community than anything else, except the library itself. The better class of librarians are anxious to include such notes in their own catalogues and class-lists, and there seems to be only one opinion as to their pre-eminent importance.

Here is then one of the ripest fields for co-operation, for the value of the notes depends entirely on the ability of the maker, and no one person living unites in himself the wisdom necessary to make the best notes on all the books of the library. The aid of specialists must be called in, and not one

but many minds must contribute to the work; for the writer of the best note on the last geology may not be a suitable person to prepare the note on the latest edition of Shakspeare or the newest novel by Mrs. Lewes.

The recent reports of the Boston Public Library give evidence of the wonderful influence for good exerted by the annotated catalogue. An increase of 200 per cent in some months, in the reading of the better class of books, was traceable directly to the preparation and printing of such notes. Of it, George B. Emerson said, "I have never seen anything so excellent; and hereafter no large catalogue will be considered complete without something similar appended to it." One of the chief librarians of Great Britain wrote, "I have shown it to some of the profession here, and they are as much astonished at the idea as at the execution of it. I do not think there will be many imitators. The labor of such a work must be enormous, and certainly beyond our resources and methods."

The great need and the difficulty of supplying it are both prominent. The librarians are few, if they exist at all, who are competent in themselves to name the best book for each reader who wishes information. We must have, in convenient form for use, a Manual that will answer these questions. How is it possible to secure it?

Few libraries have the means, as few the men, to do this work as it should be done. At present, by much the wisest course is to "pirate" the best notes from the Boston, Quincy, and similar catalogues; but to secure the best results, this thieving should be reduced to a system. When the best man makes a note on any book, all the libraries should have that note to use, and if the best man don't do it, he or the next best should in some way be induced to do it.

To succeed fully, it is necessary that the

work be done by the Association, and not by an individual. First, because an individual could not command the aid of the specialists and experts who would be willing to give their labor to the Association, and thus the preparation would be unsatisfactory; and, secondly, because when done by an individual, even though he had secured in this way much outside aid in making the notes, the work would not be received so heartily and with so much confidence, and, most important of all, it would not be considered the property of each member, who should, on that account, contribute his share towards its perfection. A simple bibliography can be made readily by an individual, for he has only to copy accurately and arrange by some good system the titles of all the books he can find recorded on his subject. The fully annotated Manual, which we esteem bibliography of the highest sort, must be done by the cooperation of a number of those best qualified to make it.

The following plan can be made to work. If it is improved, so much the better.

Let the Association appoint with great care a committee of five to take entire charge of the Manual, a majority vote deciding questions that arise. The committee may then prepare a list of say 10,000 volumes, the best that they are able to select, for a general library in an average community. A Manual of this kind must of necessity disregard local peculiarities, which can be provided for by each library for itself. This work of selection will be freed from much of its drudgery, because there are in print a number of lists representing selections by our most competent experts. These catalogues or lists can be checked by the committee by means of colored pencils, or by conventional signs to indicate the rank each would assign to each book. The lists collated could be consolidated into one alphabet, representing the best judgment of the entire committee.

The different members would make notes for many of the books, would select, from notes already in print, such as they approve, and would receive offers of notes from librarians and others interested in the work. As in the selection, most valuable material is ready to the hand of the committee in the work already done in this direction, specially by that library which, through the genius and energy of its superintendent, has become known throughout the world as doing most at once for itself and for others. Though so much has been accomplished, it seems impracticable to ask more of an individual institution than the free use of its material, and the Association must for itself put that material in proper shape for its own use, adding to it what is needed. Much is done already for the committee by individuals, pre-eminently by Mr. Perkins, in his admirable "Best Reading." But probably no man living can, unaided, make such a selection and notes as are wanted, and if he could it is perfectly certain that it would not be so received. The authority of the committee of five experts, representing the entire Library Association, would be great enough to make a place on their list of books something to be aimed at by both authors and publishers, and an incidental advantage of no mean importance would thus be secured.

The first edition of the Manual might be made more rapidly than so important work would seem to demand, because it should be looked upon at first, not as final, but as proof for criticism.

The selection and a part of the notes being ready, and a convenient page, type, etc., chosen, the Manual may be put in type. No plates should be made, but it should be kept standing. Whenever an error is found, or discoveries are made that require any addition, omission, or correction, let it be done in the type. Only small editions being printed, the work is thus kept closely up to date, and embodies the

result of the latest researches. As fast as in type, proofs should be submitted to the Association, or to as many of its members as desired, and to such others as might render valuable assistance or advice. The committee should then meet and pass upon the criticisms and suggestions received from these proofs, and the type being corrected in accordance with their decision, a first edition should be printed.

The Manual would then be before the Association as its property, and it would be the duty of every member to report to the committee any correction or suggestion that could possibly be of any service in perfecting the work. As soon as the first edition was exhausted, the committee should again meet and pass upon the criticisms and suggestions sent in. These should be in writing and as briefly worded as is consistent with clearness. One will object to a certain book included among the best, and give reasons which may possibly have escaped the attention of the committee. Another brings forward arguments for adding to the list a work omitted. Another calls attention to an error in fact or in judgment in some of the notes. In short, the brief written suggestions sent in should include everything that may in any way tend to improve the common property of all. These, read before the committee, can be acted upon, and the type, corrected to accord, would be ready for a new edition. Between each edition, some books would be published worthy to take the place of some before put on the list, and so the Manual would be in a constant state of growth, representing as perfectly as possible the combined judgment of the Association upon the best books on the given subjects.

This would require labor and money, but only a small fraction of what would be expended to accomplish the same results in any other manner. Who will pay for doing the work? Who can afford to give the labor required? Well, the work will deserve pay;

perhaps it would be well to give the committee taking it in charge a certain copyright, for the Manual would have a very large sale, both as a library catalogue and for individual use. But if the labor were given outright and the entire proceeds put into the treasury of the Association, it would be economy for the libraries whose librarians spent their time upon it. If Mr. Brown does one fifth the committee work on such a Manual, his library gets the benefit of five fifths, and it would be a very short-sighted board of trustees that would not heartily approve of such work in library hours. The large libraries need it quite as much as the smaller ones, for the number of their volumes makes it all the more necessary to choose the best. The small ones want it to guide them in purchasing as well as in reading. Such a Manual would remove at once all necessity for libraries newly starting to pay a bonus of several hundred dollars to some expert who should name a list of books to be purchased. A better list than any individual living could prepare would be ready to their hands.

The preparation of such a Manual would mark an era in library history. The manifold uses to which it would be put must be apparent to every reader,—for individual use as a guide to reading, free from the strong objections urged against all "courses of reading;" as a guide in the purchase of books for either private or public collections; as the main catalogue of many of these libraries. For the latter use, the call numbers of the books in each library could be written in the margin, or if enough copies were wanted for distribution, the call numbers could be easily set in the margin, and a special edition could be printed at small expense. Each library would have then to issue a catalogue only of the books not included in the Manual. The experiment can be tried best with a small selection. Perhaps 5000 volumes would be



large enough. Its success established, it would be easy to introduce new titles, with their notes, to any extent desired.

The plan is for ready-made catalogues, and that something of the kind must soon be done is evident from recent discussions. The statistics of the amount of money spent in making catalogues are somewhat alarming, and though the proposed plan aims to relieve only the smaller libraries largely from this burden, when put in operation, it will have prepared the way for our co-operative cataloguing, which *will most effectively reduce the cataloguing expenses of the larger institutions.*

The catalogues are well worth all they cost, even under the present wasteful system of making them. But it requires no little portion of the professional time to make the public and specially financial committees understand this worth. That trained cataloguers at higher salaries must be obtained, and that several thousand dollars must be appropriated by libraries of only a few thousand volumes, requires some reasoning to prove to the average committee-man. But the librarian who understands his work knows that even this pays. Can we not accomplish much better results at a much lower expenditure? The catalogues thus made are only lists of titles. What cataloguer seeking a situation is prepared to make, on all the varying topics, notes such as experience proves to be invaluable?

The gravest difficulties, of the multitude of small libraries, already started and springing up almost daily, are found in the selection and cataloguing of their books—most important, most difficult, most botched, of all things connected with these great companions of our schools. The Manual gives the best possible selection to purchase. If so many books cannot be had at first, it is the best possible basis on which to check off those to be purchased. With the notes to assist, and knowing the

special wants of the community, the selection of a thousand volumes from the list of five or ten thousand would be trifling compared with the present methods. An expert could go through the catalogue, after having the circumstances explained, and mark in blue those books needed most and in red those needed least, and thus prepare in a single day a better guide for the purchasing committee than can now be made in a month's labor. The librarian has merely to mark the shelf mark in the margin of the Manual, and the book is catalogued beyond improvement for the public.

The scheme is not a day-dream. Neither is it a "flying machine." It has been under consideration, and to a certain extent discussion, for several years, and there are no obstacles yet brought forward to hinder its speedy and economical execution. There are responsible printers who will undertake the typographical part. There are able librarians, *librati*, and specialists, who will lend their assistance in making the selection and the notes, and in keeping them corrected up to date. The whole question of the usefulness of our libraries is here summed up. "How shall we give the best books to inquirers?" It has been proved that the best means yet known are classed lists with carefully-prepared notes. The libraries want them and must have them, if their highest work is to be done. With hardly an exception, they cannot make them for themselves for lack of men and money. The plan submitted will secure the result, and is entirely practicable. If there be a better way, quicker, cheaper, more satisfactory in any respect, let us have it. If not, let us take the first steps towards carrying out the plan submitted, and put in the hands of our librarians a ready made *rade mecum* which we feel sure is to be the Coming Catalogue.

## THE LIBRARY JOURNAL.

AUGUST 31, 1877.

*Communications for the JOURNAL, and all inquiries concerning it, should be addressed to MELVIL DEWEY, 1 Tremont Place, Boston. Also library catalogues, reports, regulations, sample blanks, and other library appliances.*

*Remittances and orders for subscriptions and advertisements should be addressed to F. LEVINSKY, P. O. Box 4295, New York. Remittances should be made by draft on New York, P. O. order, or registered letter.*

*Exchanges and editors' copies should be addressed to AMERICAN LIBRARY JOURNAL, 37 Park Row, New York.*

*The JOURNAL addresses itself exclusively to library interests, admitting to its advertising as well as to its reading-matter columns only what concerns the librarian as librarian. It does not undertake to review books unless specially relating to library and bibliographical topics.*

*The Editors of the JOURNAL are not responsible for the views expressed in contributed articles or communications.*

*Subscribers are entitled to advertise books wanted, or duplicates for sale and exchange, at the nominal rate of ten cents per line (regular rate, 25 cents); also to advertise for situations or assistance to the extent of five lines free of charge.*

THE plans for the American Conference are now completed, and the Association hopes to welcome a large number to an interesting and fruitful meeting in New York. Whoever comes should come thoroughly "read up" on the subjects announced for discussion, especially as presented in the committee reports, and prepared to express his experience and opinion on any subject wherein they may be valuable. Final action, it should be remembered, will be taken on subjects of the greatest importance, and criticism should come before and not after the decision. While no one should talk for the sake of talking, no one should refrain who has anything to say.

THE party for England will start immediately after the adjournment of the New York meeting, and the object of the visit, the terms offered, and the company promised should induce many additions. Everything promises well for the success of the English Conference, and we note with especial pleasure the hearty willingness and desire for international co-operation expressed by the organizing committee. This is evident not least in their intention to recognize visiting librarians in the organization of the Conference, and with such a spirit

prevailing, we may hope for the most useful and wide-spread results.

THE report on co-operative cataloguing made to the University Convocation of the State of New York is interesting not only for itself and the testimony it affords to the possible usefulness of the Association, but for the point it makes in suggesting co-operation by combination of capital rather than by combination of labor. As co-operation must pervade all the hoped-for work, the question thus raised has the strongest claim on the attention of the Association. If the New York committee be right, the establishment of a library bureau and the employment of a competent cataloguer and indexer becomes an early problem. If the Poole's Index committee plan be right, we have a precedent for much other work that is to be done by co-operation.

MR. POOLE has kindly undertaken to carry out the suggestion made in the JOURNAL, p. 364, and to add to a more full digest of library laws in the several States than the brief summary given by him in the Government Report, suggestions toward a model library law to be adopted in other States, in a paper which he will read before the Conference. This is one of the most promising methods for propagating free libraries within the compass of the Association, and if, as is proposed, a capable committee be appointed to draft and submit such a law, much good may come of it.

A NEW phase in our discussions appears in the plan submitted for criticism and suggestion by Mr. Anderson, for which we have made room as worthy of careful consideration and perhaps of discussion at the New York meeting. The object of the Association clearly covers such pioneer work as that proposed. Every question of co-operative cataloguing, selection, etc., applies as much to the proposed library as to those with which we are more familiar. It would seem that no better course could be taken to develop an interest in reading and a desire for a library of their own than to give a circulating library of the highest class a firm foothold in a community. We speak, of course, of a library managed more with the design of doing the most good possible, although of course on a business basis, than as a mere matter of private speculation, after the fashion of what we all know so well as a "circulating library."



## AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

The first annual meeting, to be held in the Y. M. C. A. lecture-room, corner 23d St. and Fourth Ave., New York, Sept. 4th and 5th, will be opened at 10 o'clock on Tuesday by a brief address from the president, Mr. Justin Winsor. Librarians and all interested in bibliography are invited to attend, and to offer their names for membership in the Association.

In addition to the programme presented in the last number, p. 396, Mr. W. F. Poole, of Chicago, will read a paper on "A Uniform Library Law," with a digest of existing legislation in the several States and suggestions as to the desirable features in such a law.

The fifth report of the Co-operation Committee, printed in this number, increases by so much the matter for discussion.

A further report from the Poole's Index Committee, with revised list of periodicals and abbreviations, will be presented at the meeting.

The Hoffman House, Broadway and 26th St., is designated as the headquarters for those attending the conference from out of town. This hotel is on the European plan, with restaurant *à la carte*, so that guests may take their meals here or elsewhere, as convenience serves. A discount of 20 per cent will be made from the usual rates for rooms, \$2 per day and upwards, according to location, etc., provided a reasonable number of those in attendance are at this hotel. This house is about five minutes' walk from the place of meeting.

The New England party, so far as convenient, will leave Boston Monday, Sept. 3d, at 6 P.M. The Fall River line has been chosen as giving the best accommodations, and special excursion rates have been obtained. Those desiring tickets (which are good until used) should apply promptly to the secretary.

The secretary's correspondence indicates that there is to be a full attendance of the working librarians, and that the meeting will really be more fruitful than that of last year, since there is so much matter ready to be finally decided.

Visitors to New York will find in the city several libraries well worth a visit. (See Trow's New York Directory, City Register, p. 28; or Government Report, pp. 918-52.) The new Lenox Library building is on Fifth Ave., 70th and 71st Sts.; the Astor Library, Lafayette Place, near Eighth St.; the Mercantile Library, Astor Place, Eighth St.; the Society Library, University Place, near 13th St.; the Apprentices' Library, 472 Broadway.

VOL. I, No. 12.

## CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE—FIFTH REPORT.

*Library Statistics.*

The great diversity in the arrangement of library statistics, as presented in the annual reports of the public libraries of the country, suggests to every inquirer into the "true inwardness" of these institutions the advantages that would accrue to all interested parties from the adoption by *all* libraries of uniform tables for statement of receipts and expenses, and also the statistics of circulation, accession, and general library work. Uniformity of headings is necessary for comparison between libraries, as well as to obtain true averages in various departments of work. With this in view, the following model for statistical reports has been prepared, as covering, to a great extent, the principal features of library work. While these tables will meet the requirement of small and medium libraries, those of the largest class will, of course, prepare additional tables. In the table of cash receipts, the heading of "membership fees" is added for the use of subscription libraries, and that of "deposit from non-residents" will meet the requirements of those libraries that admit non-residents to their privileges. As every library will make special statements of the several funds, it is thought that a single statement of the *full* receipts from these sources will suffice in the general table of receipts submitted. The headings of the table of expenses are very similar to those used in a large number of libraries, and a further division of the expense account is deemed unnecessary. The headings of the tables of circulation and accession do not seem to require explanation, except that by unbound pamphlets is meant such single copies or collections as are not permanently fastened in covers beyond the possibility of removal—*i.e.*, regularly bound. The classification of issues and accessions is submitted with some hesitation, as liable to amendment and improvement. It is finally recommended that the tables be repeated in successive reports, with the addition of a new column for the current year. This arrangement in course of time will place on a line the statement of each detail of library work for a course of years, and comparison is easily made. The adoption of such tables will certainly save space in making up reports, and make them intelligible and economical.

## RECEIPTS.

<i>Cash on hand at last report</i> .....	
Municipal appropriation.....	
Income from invested funds.....	
Receipts from dog licenses.....	
Fines.....	
Sale of catalogues.....	
Payments for missing or damaged books.....	
Sale of condemned books and duplicates.....	
Membership fees.....	
Deposits from non-residents.....	
Sundries.....	
<i>Total</i> .....	

## EXPENDITURES.

<i>Book Account.</i>	
Books.....	
Pamphlets.....	
Periodicals.....	
Binding.....	
Insurance.....	
<i>Building Account.</i>	
Repairs and additions.....	
Furniture and fixtures.....	
Insurance.....	
Rent.....	
Fuel.....	
Lights.....	
<i>Salary Account.</i>	
Administration.....	
Cataloguing.....	
Extra service.....	
<i>Supply Account.</i>	
Printing catalogues.....	
Blanks and stationery.....	
Postage.....	
Paper covers.....	
Pamphlet cases and binders.....	
Sundries.....	
<i>Cash on hand</i> .....	
<i>Total</i> .....	

## CIRCULATION.

Number of days the library was open.....	
“ “ volumes delivered for home use.....	
“ “ “ “ “ reference use.....	
Average daily use (home and reference).....	
Largest “ “ (with date).....	
Smallest “ “ ( “ ).....	

CIRCULATION (Continued).

Number of books lost and not paid for.....	
" " " worn out and withdrawn .....	
" " notices to delinquents.....	
" " volumes covered.....	
" " " bound.....	
" " names registered during the year.....	
Total number of names registered.....	

ACCESSIONS.

Number of volumes in the library as last reported .....	
Increase by purchase.....	
" " gifts.....	
" " binding pamphlets.....	
" " " periodicals.....	
Number of missing volumes restored since last report.....	
" " volumes missing or withdrawn since last report.....	
Total number of volumes in the library.....	
Number of unbound pamphlets last reported.....	
Increase by purchase.....	
" " gift.....	
Total number of unbound pamphlets in the library.....	
Number of newspapers subscribed for.....	
" " " given.....	
" " magazines subscribed for.....	
" " " given.....	
Number of volumes received since last report.....	

GROWTH, SIZE, AND USE.

	Vols. added during year.	Total vols. in library.	Vols. issued during year.
<i>Literature.</i>			
Juveniles.....			
Prose fiction.....			
Essays, poetry, drama, etc.....			
Periodicals.....			
Foreign literature.....			
<i>History.</i>			
Geography and travels.....			
Biography.....			
History.....			
<i>Arts and Sciences.</i>			
Fine arts.....			
Industrial arts.....			
Natural science.....			
Philology.....			
Social and political science.....			
Philosophy and theology.....			
Totals.....			

*Association Binding.*

Some leading publishers having expressed a willingness to furnish their books in that style of binding which was agreed upon by the Association as the best for library use, the committee submit the following specifications. Each signature to be sewed, and, for books larger than duodecimo, on at least three strong cords; backs and corners of genuine goat (vellum, put on under the paper, as in French bindings, is still more desirable for the corners); boards laced on, solid backs, paper sides, tops burnished, edges trimmed no more than absolutely necessary to make them even. Material and workmanship to be strictly first class throughout. This binding is intended to secure the greatest durability for a given expenditure.

The Association binding cannot be done by alternating signatures in sewing as in most cheap work. Solid backs are preferred, as giving much greater strength, and if good Turkey morocco is used, there will be little danger of the back cracking. The leather glued firmly to the backs of the signatures gives a support that is lacking in the spring-back.

Paper sides, while two or three cents cheaper, are thought to wear as long, certainly more smoothly, as cloth sides often fray out at the edges, and when wet blister in patches. The paper is also more convenient for putting on outside labels, and can be replaced more readily if soiled. It has a further advantage in slipping more easily into a full shelf, the friction being less than with cloth.

The burnished top is recommended as a substitute for gilding, which in job-work is too expensive, costing something like 15 cents per top. By pressing the leaves firmly together and polishing the top as if it were to be gilded, almost the same protection from dust is secured at only a trifling expense. At the annual cleanings, these burnished tops can be dusted much more quickly and safely, for it is difficult for the dust to find its way down between the leaves. It is understood that the term "Association binding" will under no circumstances be given to any work not conforming to the specifications laid down by the Association.

It is evident that it would be much more satisfactory to buy books in the best library binding, if it could be obtained, rather than be compelled to pay for cheap muslin and imitation leather, which must be replaced after the first issues.

*Abbreviations.*

To the list of abbreviations given on p. 322 the following additions have been made:

bd. (band).  
cf. (calf).  
doc. (document).  
Hfd. (Hartford).  
mut. (mutilated).  
no. (number).  
pub. (public).  
t. (tome).  
Tor. (Torino).

Also these corrections:

Gr. (Greek), and Gl. (Great).  
Lpz. (Leipzig).  
Ox., instead of Oxf. (Oxford).

Additions, in same column, should not have been capitalized.

Attention is specially called to this list, which it is desired to complete and adopt at the September meeting.

*Binders.*

Samples of the various binders now in the market have been submitted to the committee for comparison. They unite in recommending as the best for library use the Emerson binder for shelf catalogues or other purposes where great strength and durability are required, and the binder called "The (library) binder" for pamphlets, paper-covered books, current numbers of periodicals, etc., where only a few are to be bound in the same covers. The description and prices of these binders will be given in the advertising pages of the JOURNAL. In expectation of a large demand from the libraries, the manufacturers have made special terms with the committee, so that they are able to offer either binder, in any size or style required, at three fourths the regular rates.

*Printed Numbers.*

A series of experiments are in progress to select the paper and ink best adapted for printed numbers. The Van Everen numbers, perforated and gummed like postage-stamps, will be used, and prices and descriptions will be given in the advertising pages as soon as the experiments are concluded.

*Call Slip.*

For a call slip for the use of either the public or attendants, the committee recommend unprinted paper 5 x 5 cm. (about 2 x 2 inches). This was the smallest size in the collection of

sample blanks, but the testimony of those using it was very strong in its favor. Except in special cases, it seems unnecessary to go to the expense of printing the slips. The smaller size costs less, but the reasons that determined its adoption were of convenience rather than of expense. These slips, made of a paper of given weight, keep their shape and can be assorted and handled much more readily than a larger size. The space occupied is a matter of no little importance at most delivery desks. Square slips have all their edges alike, so that it is impossible to write in the wrong direction.

#### *Catalogue Slip.*

For various purposes of indexing, etc., the committee voted to put on the list of supplies a standard catalogue slip exactly like the card, except the material, which will be a first-class heavy writing paper instead of bristol board, thus reducing the expense.

#### *Miscellanea.*

In the shelf catalogue description, p. 365, book number 2 cm., accessions 3 cm., should take the place of 2½ cm. for each.

After careful examination and experiment, the committee recommend Danner's revolving bookcase for the use of cataloguers, for reference books, etc. Special terms have been made by which it can be supplied to the libraries desiring, on application to the committee.

#### *Supply Department.*

The committee have decided to include in the supply department everything needed in a library except the books, pamphlets, and periodicals themselves, and such furniture and fixtures as from their bulk or other reasons can best be obtained by each library for itself. They invite suggestions of any kind as to articles to be included, material, makers, prices, etc. They also urge upon all interested in the new library movement the importance and desirability of co-operating in this effort to reduce expense by obtaining as far as possible all their supplies through the committee. Success depends on the extent to which the plan is adopted, and as the committee give all their services, and by using large quantities are able to get the lowest possible prices, there seems no reason why the expense for supplies may not be materially reduced if all the libraries join in the movement.

CHAS. A. CUTLER, }  
FRED. B. PERKINS, } *Committee.*  
FREDERICK JACKSON, }

#### THE ENGLISH CONFERENCE.

In addition to the full programme given in the last number, we may now add that everything goes well with the Conference, and that all the libraries of any importance which had not joined it are now doing so.

There are to be six vice-presidents—to three of which the organizing committee will nominate the heads of the three largest libraries in England, Scotland, and Ireland respectively: Rev. H. O. Cox, Bodleian Library, Oxford; Jas. T. Clark, Advocates' Library, Edinburgh; Rev. Dr. Malet, Trinity College Library, Dublin. The other vice-presidencies will be left open at present, with the view of assigning them to distinguished representatives of other countries.

The committee will also nominate twelve members of council:

Provisional.	AXON, W. E. A.	Soc. Manchester Lit. Club.
	CORRIE, F.	Liverpool Public Libraries.
	CHURCHILL, DR. A.	Manchester " "
	LAURE, W.	Lit. & Phil. Soc., Newcastle.
	MELLIS, J. D.	Birmingham Pub. Libraries.
	SMALL, J.	Edinburgh Univ. Library.
London.	BELLES, G.	Keeper of the Printed Books, Brit. Museum.
	GARRETT, R.	Supt. of the Reading Room, Brit. Museum.
	HARRISON, R.	London Library.
	CHURCHILL, W. H.	Corporation Library.
	VAUX, W. S. W.	Royal Asiatic Society's Library.
	WHEATLEY, E. R.	Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society's Library.

All the last named are members of the organizing committee; Messrs. Harrison, Vaux, and Wheatley have been chairmen of it.

Additions may be made from the librarians of other countries who may attend.

The two secretaries nominated are Mr. E. B. Nicholson, of the London Institution, and Mr. H. R. Tedder, of the Athenaeum Club Library.

The omission of one or two well-known names from this otherwise excellently representative list is because of inability to attend or to serve.

The American party for London now comprises Messrs. Winsor, Cutter, and Dewey, of Boston, Jackson, of Newton, Greene, of Worcester, Smith, of Philadelphia, Poole, of Chicago, Evans, of Indianapolis, Guild, of Providence, Rogers, of Burlington, with four or five undecided. After careful examination of the various points to be considered, the steamer *Australia*, of the Anchor line, sailing September 8th from New York direct to London, has been chosen. The library party have the best accommodations on the boat for \$50 currency over and back, or \$55 for the inside

berths of the first cabin. The trip to London occupies about eleven and a half days, thus giving twelve days in which to visit the British libraries before the meetings begin, on October 2d. Most of the party expect to return immediately after the conference, getting back after an absence of five to six weeks. The next steamer, sailing on the 19th, would get into London in time for the meeting, but the extra eleven days in England seem very desirable. Any of the party desiring can return by way of Glasgow for \$10 additional. State-rooms may be secured of the secretary by payment of \$25, the balance being paid on starting. If notice be given ten days before sailing, any of the party unable to go September 8th can have tickets on the later steamer, or can have the \$25 refunded. The Australia is expected in New York on September 3d, so can be inspected during conference week. Further information will be supplied on application to the secretary.

MELVIL DEWEY,  
1 Tremont Place, Boston.

#### CO-OPERATIVE COLLEGE CATALOGUING.

*University Convocation of the State of New York, July 11th, 1877—On Co-operation in Indexing and Cataloguing College Libraries: Report of the Committee appointed Aug., 1876.*

A PAPER read before the convocation a year ago on "The Administration of College Libraries" contained some suggestions as to the practicability of co-operation in the work of indexing and cataloguing. The idea of such co-operation, if not altogether new, was at least untried; and it seemed possible to devise a plan or method which should have the state of New York for its field, and which would be best carried out by means of the annual convocations of the Regents. Your committee, appointed after the reading of the paper, at once set about the preparation of such a plan.

The work to be done embraced, first, the indexing of the most important periodical and miscellaneous literature to date, with the adoption of a plan for its regular continuance; and second, the adoption of a uniform method of card cataloguing; and possibly the production and maintenance, by a system of exchanges, or otherwise, of a general card catalogue of all the college libraries of the state. The mode of doing it involved a standing committee ap-

pointed by this body, who should decide what periodicals and miscellaneous works should be indexed, and how it should be done; and should also recommend, after careful study, the form and contents of a card for common use in cataloguing—this committee to work without pay, and report from year to year to this body. It involved also the employment of an indexer and cataloguer, to work under the direction of the standing committee, and to be paid by the several libraries of the state on some equitable arrangement—such indexer *to make this work a study, so that the results should be uniform in method and scholarly in character.* Having entered upon the work under the superintendence of a diligent committee, an expert indexer would in a few years accumulate materials which might be printed and sold so as to reimburse the libraries in part for the money expended, or provide the means for some further work. In the mean time cheap copyists might be employed to keep the libraries supplied with the results produced up to date, in the card form, so that the printing could be delayed till something like completeness was reached. Should this work be accomplished satisfactorily, the committee with such experience, and the indexer so disciplined by study and practice, would be able to enter upon the more difficult work of preparing, in a similar manner, a general subject-index or library manual which was hinted at in the paper read last year, and which is more fully described in the "Report on Libraries in the United States" at page 724.

Such is a brief outline of the plan which your committee were turning over in their minds without having reached its minute details when the conference of librarians met in Philadelphia in October. Up to that time, so far as we know, little or nothing had been done by libraries in this country by co-operation. If any one had doubts, however, as to the wisdom of your course in the appointment of a committee to consider and report upon this subject, it took but a few hours' attendance at the conference to remove them. It soon became apparent to the members of the committee present at that meeting that the work we were undertaking for the state of New York might better be merged into the general work there proposed for the whole country.

The tendency toward a combination of effort among libraries, which scarcely existed a year ago, has had so rapid growth that now a scheme



which should be limited to a single state would seem too narrow. This tendency has been promoted in three different ways. First, the publication, in October, 1876, of the U. S. Report on Libraries, prepared by the Commissioner of Education, brought together such facts concerning them, and also the ideas and methods and experiences of so many librarians, as to furnish a common basis of intercourse. Second, the formation of the Library Association at the conference about the same time brought the librarians into still closer relation to each other, and made it possible to enter definitely and systematically upon general plans for mutual benefit. Third, the LIBRARY JOURNAL, which was started in September, is devoted to the common interests of libraries, furnishing a most happy means of communication among them. It is, moreover, the official journal of the Association, through which its committees report and the questions arising in it are discussed.

The work assigned to two of these committees should be specially mentioned here, as it covers most of the ground on which we as a committee were expected to report to the convocation. The first was appointed to devise a plan for the continuation of Poole's "Index to Periodical Literature," and consists of Mr. Justin Winsor, of the Boston Public Library; Mr. William F. Poole, of the Chicago Public Library; and Mr. Charles A. Cutter, of the Boston Athenæum. Their plan, as published in the JOURNAL, is for a number of libraries to join in the work, and each take charge of indexing one or more series of periodicals, and send the titles unarranged to a central bureau, where they are to be condensed in one alphabetical arrangement, and incorporated with the matter of Poole's Index as published in 1853. The committee has also published a series of rules to be followed by the several indexers, and has under consideration a list of the periodicals which it is proposed to index.

The other committee which we would mention was appointed to consider any matters in which co-operation may be thought to be practicable, and devise plans for carrying it on. It consists of Mr. Charles A. Cutter, of the Boston Athenæum; Mr. Fred. B. Perkins, of the Boston Public Library; and Mr. Frederick Jackson, of the Newton Free Library. This committee has already reported through the JOURNAL on the size and form of cards which they recommend for general use in cataloguing, and prepared a list of suitable abbreviations for cata-

logues; and also considered matters not pertinent to this paper. Besides the reports of these committees, the LIBRARY JOURNAL has contained a number of articles from different sources discussing plans for co-operation in indexing and cataloguing.

We need not describe further the aims of the Library Association, or the work of its committees, or the character of the LIBRARY JOURNAL. Enough has been said to suggest that since this body listened to the paper on "The Administration of College Libraries," a year ago, a new era has been begun in this department of education. With a well organized association and a well-sustained journal, it may be expected that every practicable plan for co-operation will be worked out and entered upon, with the whole country for its field of operation. More than this—a similar association is proposed by the librarians of England, and a meeting already called. We would not be too sanguine of results. Very much in every library must always be determined by its own peculiarities. But it is safe to say that if the movement—now happily started in this country and proposed in England—is carried on discreetly, there will be a constant tendency toward common methods; and as methods become common, co-operation will be facilitated.

In view of this movement, your committee, in reporting upon the subject referred to them, would respectfully recommend that the libraries of this state unite with the Library Association in devising and carrying out its schemes for co-operation among all the libraries of the country. We should undertake no separate work now. The Association is yet in its infancy, and its work still in a preparatory state. Plans are being matured, and reported from month to month in the LIBRARY JOURNAL. The JOURNAL is open to all. The committees of the Association invite suggestion and criticism. They are men of large experience and of energy, and they will doubtless prosecute their several schemes vigorously. If anything is to be gained by co-operation in this state, much more may be expected in the whole country.

If, however, the college libraries require any special adaptation of this movement to themselves—if they have any special wants to be met—their librarians should bestir themselves at once. At present the work is chiefly in the hands of the public libraries. In deference to the colleges, it is proposed that the next meeting of the Association be held during their

usual vacation—about the first of September. If our needs or our experiences suggest any plan, or any modification of a plan, for mutual assistance, they should then be made known.

In making this report, your committee do not wish to be understood as endorsing fully all the methods proposed by the committees of the Library Association. It is very doubtful whether as good indexing can be done, in the manner proposed, by a considerable number of libraries, even under very explicit rules, as might be expected of one or two experts, who should work for pay under the general direction and criticism of a committee. Co-operation can be secured quite as effectually by a combination of capital as by a combination of labor. In such an enterprise *the first and most important thing to be aimed at is perfection of work.* It is very easy to make a cheap index; it is very difficult to make such an index as we now want. No one knows till he has tried, and his work has been tested by actual use, how difficult it is. Mr. Poole's index, useful as it is, should never be reprinted till it has been thoroughly revised by an actual examination of every book indexed in it. In this opinion Mr. Poole would doubtless concur. Numerous volumes might be named to illustrate the importance of such a revision. Now, one or two scholarly men who should devote themselves exclusively for a time to the work of indexing, with adequate facilities, with sharp criticism, and without haste, could not fail to produce something more and better than an ordinary index. With their minds steadily on the work, they would soon come to associate with the titles and the authors all those brief hints and condensed suggestions which would make their work a complete guide for all time to the periodicals indexed. Everybody knows how often it happens that one or two words—a date, a place, a name, an adjective, not belonging properly to the title—will determine him to read or not to read an article. The titles should be condensed to the last degree, but these addenda should be wisely chosen and never omitted. For many other reasons—as uniformity of style, system in cross-references, etc.—one or two paid indexers, working steadily, would, in our judgment, produce better results than many who should devote only leisure hours to it.

Other points might be mentioned, but a review of the methods proposed is not the object of this report. We believe that it will be far better for us to work with the Library Associa-

tion, though we may differ in opinion as to some details, than to undertake any separate work in this state.

Committee.	OTIS H. ROBINSON,
	University of Rochester.
	WILLARD FISKE,
	Cornell University.
	T. J. BACKUS,
	Vassar College.
	C. W. BENNETT, D.D.,
	Syracuse University.
	HENRY A. HOMES, LL.D.,
	State Library, Albany.

#### INEXPENSIVE CATALOGUES.

A PRINTED catalogue without money and without price startles one familiar with the item "printing of catalogue" in library reports. Mr. Poole's suggestion seems to be bearing fruit, and there is probability of the free catalogue becoming epidemic. The Russell Library of Middletown, Ct., has recently distributed a handsome little catalogue of 76 p. O. Nine pages in front and nine at the back are occupied by entirely unobjectionable advertisements, leaving fifty-eight pages devoted purely to the library. This catalogue was furnished without charge by Pelton & King, the steam printers of Middletown. Even if every other page had to be given up to advertisements, this plan would still be well worth the attention of librarians. Every left-hand page might be used for paid matter, leaving every right-hand page for the catalogue, notes, etc. Such an arrangement could be made in almost any town, as the advertising space would be infinitely more valuable than the same in local papers. Every catalogue would be preserved carefully, and being distributed freely by the library, every house and office would have it for ready reference. Every page consulted would have beside it the advertisement where it could not but be seen and read. The prominence and permanence of such advertising would be apparent to every shrewd business man, and it would be a very small town where the space would not pay for the printer's bills. In addition to this, it is an advertisement for the party carrying the movement through; and if, as is usually done, the printer sells the space and does his own work, he makes business for his office and can afford to do it at a less rate, as he can use time when nothing else is ready for his men. Of course this could not be carried out for a very large catalogue. Brief finding lists or shelf lists,

where a subject arrangement is pursued, are best made in this way.

The Russell Library is one of the many libraries that have adopted the Amherst College plan, and it has therefore been able to present a very convenient short title subject catalogue by simply printing its shelf lists arranged alphabetically. A review of the catalogue will appear in an early number. Printed with advertisements on the back of every leaf, only half as many copies have to be cut up in making bulletins, printed card catalogues, etc. There are many uses to which printed titles can be put in a library, if they could be had without too much expense. Printed slips, properly arranged, make alphabetical, subject, accession, shelf, and the various special catalogues. They are also convenient for heading charging slips, where each book is represented by a slip with the title; also for pasting on the back of paper-covered books, the author being printed in very distinct type. It is not at all improbable that the advertising value of the backs of the slips and of the margins will remove the great difficulty in regard to publishers issuing title slips of all their books. The great number of slips that would be preserved throughout the world, most of them without mounting, would make such space of the highest value for certain announcements, and probably, if the subject were properly presented, there would be little difficulty in raising the necessary funds in this way.

The Italian scheme mentioned at the conference serves as an excellent model in this respect, and will be described in a following JOURNAL.

#### THE PUBLIC LIBRARY AND THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

WE had intended long before this to give our readers a summary of the valuable address delivered some months since before the teachers of Quincy, Mass., by Charles Francis Adams, Jr., trustee of the Quincy Public Library, and author of the admirable notes in its catalogue, "On the use which could be made of the Public Library of the town in connection with the school system in general, and more particularly with the high and upper-grade grammar schools." The paper is permanently so useful that we need only plead "better late than never" in giving it to our readers now. It is presented as condensed by

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Mr. C. A. Cutter, who writes: "This is the fullest discussion yet published of a question of great importance to our town libraries, one that is only just beginning to attract the attention it deserves. Moreover, it will be found that much of what Mr. Adams says of the value of the teacher's influence upon individual scholars, and of the satisfaction and encouragement which comes from it, is true, with very slight changes, of the librarian. The latter must continue what the teacher has begun; he must make a beginning, if he can, where the teacher has failed, and for those with whom the teacher has not come in contact; like the teacher, he must add this to duties already engrossing; like him, he must make a constant series of experiments; and again, like him, he must be—and no doubt he will be—content if in one case in a hundred he produces any visible result. He needs some interest and effort like this, or else his work, however well done, is only the work of a clerk or of a book-worm."

The one best possible result of a common-school education, says Mr. Adams, its great end and aim, should be to prepare the children of the community for the far greater work of educating themselves. Now in education, as in almost everything else, there is an almost irresistible tendency to mistake the means for the end. In the schools of this town, four years ago, arithmetic, grammar, spelling, geography were taught as if to be able to answer the questions in the text-books was the great end of all education. It was instruction through a perpetual system of conundrums. The child was made to learn some queer definition in words, or some disagreeable puzzle in figures, as if it were in itself an acquisition of value—something to be kept and hoarded like silver dollars, as being a handy thing to have in the house. The result was that the scholars acquired with immense difficulty something which they forgot with equal ease; and when they left our grammar schools they had what people are pleased to call the rudiments of education, and yet not one in twenty of them could sit down and write an ordinary letter, in a legible hand, with ideas clearly expressed, in words correctly spelled; and the proportion of those who left school with either the ability or desire to further educate themselves was scarcely greater. Scarcely one out of twenty of those who leave our schools ever further educate themselves in any great degree, out-

side, of course, of any special trade or calling through which they earn a living. The reason of this is obvious enough; and it is not the fault of the scholar. It is the fault of a system which brings a community up in the idea that a poor knowledge of the rudiments of reading, writing, and arithmetic constitutes in itself an education. Now, on the contrary, the true object of all your labors is something more than to teach children to read; it should, if it is to accomplish its full mission, also impart to them a love of reading.

A man or woman whom a whole childhood spent in the common schools has made able to stumble through a newspaper, or labor through a few trashy books, is scarcely better off than one who cannot read at all. Indeed, I doubt if he or she is as well off, for it has long been observed that a very small degree of book knowledge almost universally takes a depraved shape. The animal will come out. The man who can barely spell out his newspaper confines his labor in nine cases out of ten to those highly seasoned portions of it which relate to acts of violence, and especially to murders. A little learning is proverbially a dangerous thing; and the less the learning the greater the danger.

I do not know that what I am about to suggest has ever been attempted anywhere, but I feel great confidence that it would succeed. Having started the child by means of what we call a common-school course, the process of further self-education is to begin. The great means is through books, through much reading of books. But we teach children to read; we do not teach them *how* to read. That, the one all-important thing—the great connecting link between school education and self-education, between means and end—that one link we make no effort to supply. As long as we do not make an effort to supply it, our school system in its result is and will remain miserably deficient. For now, be it remembered, the child of the poorest man in Quincy, the offspring of our paupers even, has an access as free as the son of a millionaire, or the student of Harvard College, to what is, for practical general use, a perfect library. The old days of intellectual famine for the masses are over, and plenty reigns. Yet, though the school and the library stand on our main street side by side, there is, so to speak, no bridge leading from the one to the other. So far as I can judge, we teach our children the mechanical part of reading, and

then we turn them loose to take their chances. If the child has naturally an inquiring or imaginative mind, it perchance may work its way unaided through the traps and pitfalls of literature; but the chances seem to me to be terribly against it. It is so very easy, and so very pleasant too, to read only books which lead to nothing, light and interesting and exciting books, and the more exciting the better, that it is almost as difficult to wean ourself from it as from the habit of chewing tobacco to excess, or of smoking the whole time, or of depending for stimulus on tea or coffee or spirits. Yet here, to the threshold of this vast field—you might even call it this wilderness—of general literature, full as it is of holes, and bogs, and pitfalls, all covered over with poisonous plants—here it is that our common-school system brings our children, and, having brought them there, it leaves them to go on or not, just as they please; or, if they do go on, they are to find their own way or to lose it, just as it may happen.

This is all wrong. Our educational system stops just where its assistance might be made invaluable. The one thing which makes the true teacher and which distinguishes him from the mechanical pedagogue (which any man may become) is the faculty of interesting himself in the single pupil—seeing, watching, aiding the development of the individual mind. I never tried it, but I know just what it must be from my own experience in other matters. I have a place here in town, for instance, upon which I live; and there I not only grow fields of corn and carrots, but also a great many trees. Now, my fields of corn or carrots are to me what a mechanical pedagogue's school is to him. I like to see them well ordered and planted in even rows, all growing exactly alike, and producing for each crop so many bushels of corn or carrots to the acre, one carrot being pretty nearly the same as another; and then, when the autumn comes and the farming term closes, I prepare my land, as the pedagogue does his school-room, for the next crop; and the last is over and gone. It is not so, however, with my trees. They are to me just what his pupils are to the born schoolmaster; in each one I take an individual interest. I watch them year after year, and see them grow and shoot out and develop. So your schools ought to be to you, not mere fields in which you turn out regular crops of human cabbages and potatoes, but plantations also in

which you raise a few trees, at least, in the individual growth of which you take a master's interest. This feeling and this only it is which can make a teacher's life ennobling—the finding out among his pupils those who have in them the material of superior men and women, and then nurturing them and aiding in their development, and making of them something which, but for their teacher, they never would have been. These pupils are to their teacher what my oak-trees are to me; but for me those trees would have died in the acorn, probably—at most they would have been mere scrub bushes; but now, through me, wholly owing to my intervention and care, they are growing and developing, and there are among them those which some day, a hundred years, perhaps, after my children are all dead of old age, will be noble oaks. Then no one will know that I ever lived, much less trouble himself to think that to me those trees owed their lives, yet it is so none the less, and those are my trees, no matter how much I am dead and forgotten. So of your scholars. If you, during your lives as teachers, can, among all your mass of pupils, find out and develop through your own personal contact only a few, say half a dozen, remarkable men and women, who but for you and your observation and watchfulness and guidance would have lived and died not knowing what they could do, then, if you do nothing more than this, you have done an immense work in life.

This dealing with the individual and not with the class is, therefore, the one great pleasure of the true school-teacher's life. It can only be done in one way—you have to afford the individual mind the nutriment it wants, and, at the same time, gently direct it in the way it should go. In other words, if the teacher is going to give himself the intense enjoyment and pleasure of doing this work, he cannot stop at the border of that wilderness of literature of which I was just now speaking, but he has got to take the pupil by the hand and enter into it with him; he must be more than his pedagogue, he must be his guide, philosopher, and friend. And so the teacher, with the scholar's hand in his, comes at last to the doors of the Public Library.

When he gets there, however, he will probably find himself almost as much in need of an instructor as his own pupils; and here at last I come to the immediate subject on which I want to talk to you. I wish to say something

of the books and reading of children, of the general introduction into literature which, if you choose, you are able to give your scholars, and which, if you do give it them, is worth more than all the knowledge contained in all the text-books that ever were printed. To your whole schools, if you only want to, you can give an elementary training as readers, and if, in this matter, you once set them going in the way they should go, you need not fear that they will ever depart from it.

Now, in the first place, let me suppose that you want to start your schools in general on certain courses of reading,—courses which would interest and improve you, probably, hardly less than your scholars,—how would you go about it? Through individual scholars, of course. You would run your eye down your rows of desks and pick out the occupants of two or three, and with them you would start the flock. Human beings are always and everywhere like sheep, in that they will go where the bell-wether leads. Picking out the two or three, then, you turn to the shelves of the library. And now you yourselves are to be put to the test. You have dared to leave the safe, narrow rut in which the pedagogue travels, and you have ventured into the fields with your pupils behind you—do you know the way here?—can you distinguish the firm ground from the boggy mire?—the good, sound wood from the worthless parasite?

In trying to inoculate children with a healthy love of good reading, the first thing to be borne in mind is that they are not grown people. There are few things more melancholy than to reflect on the amount of useless labor which good, honest, conscientious men and women have incurred, and the amount of real suffering they have inflicted on poor little children, through the disregard of this one obvious fact. When I was young, my father, from a conscientious feeling, I suppose, that he ought to do something positive for my mental and moral good and general aesthetic cultivation, made me learn Pope's *Messiah* by heart, and a number of other masterpieces of the same character. He might just as well have tried to feed a sucking baby on roast beef and Scotch ale! Without understanding a word of it, I learned the *Messiah* by rote, and I have hated it, and its author too, from that day to this, and I hate them now. So, also, I remember well when I was a boy of from ten to fourteen—for I was a considerable devourer of books—being in

cited to read Hume's *History of England*, and Robertson's *Charles V.*, and Gibbon's *Rome* even, and I am not sure I might not add Mitford's *Greece*. I cannot now say it was time thrown away; but it was almost that. The first thing, in trying to stimulate a love of reading, is to be careful not to create disgust by trying to do too much. The great masterpieces of human research and eloquence and fancy are to boys pure nuisances. They can't understand them; they can't appreciate them, if they do. When they have grown up to them and are ready for them, they will come to them of their own accord. Meanwhile you can't well begin too low down.

Not that I for a moment pretend that I could now suggest a successful course of grammar-school literature myself. The intellectual nutriment which children like those you have in charge are fitted to digest and assimilate must be found out through a long course of observation and experiment. I think I could tell you what a boy in the upper classes of the Academy would probably like; but if I were to undertake to lay out courses of reading for the scholars of our grammar schools, it would certainly soon become very clear that I did not know what I was talking about. I am very sure I should not give them the books they now read, but I am scarcely less sure they would not read the books I would give them. Nothing but actual trial, and a prolonged trial at that, will bring us any results worth having in this respect; and that trial is only possible through you.

But, in a very general way, let us suppose that we are beginning on the new system, and that your school is studying history and geography—we will take these two branches and see what we could do in connection with them to introduce your scholars into general literature. History opens up the whole broad field of historical works and also of biography; it is closely connected with fiction, too, and poetry; geography at once suggests the library of travels. Now, we find that of all forms of literature there is not one which in popularity can compare with fiction. From the cradle to the grave, men and women love story-telling. What is more, it is well they do; a good novel is a good thing, and a love for good novels is a healthy taste. And there is no striking episode in history which has not been made the basis of some good work of fiction. Only it is necessary for you to find them out, and to

put them in the hands of your scholars; they cannot find them out unaided.

Next in popularity to works of fiction are travels. A good, graphic book of travel and adventure captivates almost every one, no matter what the age. After travels comes biography: any girl will read the story of Mary, Queen of Scots; any boy the life of Paul Jones. Now, here is our starting point, and these fundamental facts we cannot ignore and yet succeed; human beings have to be interested and amused, and they do not love to be bored, and children least of all are an exception to this rule. If, then, we can instruct and improve them while we are interesting and amusing them, we are securing the result we want in the natural and easy way. There is no forcing. Now this is exactly what well-informed persons can do for any child. They can, in the line of education, put them in the way of instruction through amusement.

Take, for instance, geography, and suppose your class is studying the map of Africa—the whole great field of African exploration and adventure is at once opened up to you and your scholars. Turn to the catalogue of our Public Library and see at once what a field of interesting investigations is spread out, first for yourself and then for them. Here are a hundred volumes, and you want to look them all over to see which to put in the hands of your selected pupils: which are long and dull, and which are compact and stirring; which are adapted to boys and which to girls, and how you will get your scholars started in them. Once get them going, and the map will cease to be a map and become a picture full of life and adventure—not only to them, but to you. You will follow with them Livingstone and Stanley and Baker; and the Pyramids will become realities to them as they read of Moses and the Pharaohs, and of Cleopatra and Hannibal. The recitation then becomes a lecture in which the pupils tell all they have found out in the books they have read, and in which the teacher can suggest the reading of yet other books; while the mass of the scholars, from merely listening to the few, are stimulated to themselves learn something of all these interesting things.

So of our own country and its geography. The field of reading which would charm and interest any ordinary boy or girl in this connection is almost unlimited, but they cannot find it out. They need guidance. What active-



mindful boy, for instance, but would thoroughly enjoy portions at least of Parkman's "Discovery of the Great West," or his "Pioneers of France in the New World," or his "California Trail"? And yet how many of you have ever glanced into one of those absorbing books yourselves? Nor are they long either—in each case one moderate-sized volume tells the whole story.

Mark Twain, even, would here come in through his "Roughing It," and Ross Brown through his "Apache Country." Once entered upon, however, it would not be easy to exhaust the list. The story of Mexico and Peru—Cortez and Pizarro—the voyages of Columbus and the adventures of De Soto—they have been told in fiction and in history, and it is to-day a terrible shame to us and to our whole school system that we teach American history, and yet don't know how to make the study of American history as interesting to our children as a novel.

I want very much indeed to see our really admirable Town Library become a more living element than it now is in our school system—its complement, in fact. Neither trustee nor librarian, no matter how faithful or zealous they may be, can make it so; for we cannot know enough of the individual scholars to give them that which they personally need, and which only they will take; you cannot feed them until you know what they like, and that we, in dealing with the mass, cannot get at. You teachers, however, can get at it, if you only choose to. To enable you to do this, the trustees of the library have adopted a new rule, under which each of your schools may be made practically a branch library. The master can himself select and take from the library a number of volumes, and keep them on his desk for circulation among the scholars under his charge. He can study their tastes and ransack the library to gratify them. Nay, more, if you will but find out what your scholars want—what healthy books are in demand among them—the trustees of the library will see to it that you do not want material. You shall have all the books you will call for. When, indeed, you begin to call, we shall know exactly what to buy; and then, at last, we could arrange in printed bulletins the courses of reading which your experience would point out as best, and every book would be accessible. From that time, both schools and library would begin to do their full work together, and the last would become what it ought to be, the natural complement of the first—the People's College.

## COMMUNICATIONS.

### A GENERAL CIRCULATING LIBRARY.

HARTFORD, CT., July 26, 1877.

*To the Editor of the Library Journal:*

Permit me to bring to the notice of your readers a plan which occurs to me for supplying the people in small towns and remote localities with the privileges of a good library.

Obviously, the same reasons which exist for the establishment of libraries in large centres hold equally good in smaller places, differing only in the number to be benefited.

Even in places of some considerable importance, where libraries have already been established, there is very little attempt made to keep pace with the most recent literature on all subjects; so that outside of a few large cities there are not a great many *growing* libraries.

It is a fact that there is a very considerable element of culture, or of people hungry for it, in the smaller towns scattered all over the country, and aggregating a large portion of the entire population. It is also a fact that this element is almost entirely shut off from the privileges of good literature enjoyed by those living in the larger towns and cities, through access to libraries and otherwise. There are not enough people in any one place sufficiently interested to warrant the establishment of a library; the *bookstores* present but a meagre offering of good books in smaller towns; and being outside of the usual sources of information, but few persons *know* what is to be had. Even if they did, their purses would not permit (except in some cases) the purchase of the various books they would be glad to read.

To meet this unsupplied want, the following plan is proposed, and correspondence and discussion is invited to perfect the scheme before putting it into active operation.

It is proposed to establish a *first class* library at some central point (probably Hartford, Ct.), on the general plan of the mercantile libraries in our larger cities, from which books shall be issued to subscribers in various parts of the country. The number of volumes with which it shall be *started* will be determined somewhat by the extent of the acceptance of the plan by these smaller communities after carefully placing the matter before the people.

The design is to furnish such literature as may be demanded by the more thoughtful classes; but due regard will be paid to the experience of public libraries in general, and a carefully-selected library will be chosen with

reference to the wants of all classes. It will be apparent that books from such a library as is here proposed must of necessity be forwarded by mail or by express, so that subscribers to it would be under this additional expense above the ordinary rates of subscription.

But the whole idea refers to those who cannot otherwise have access to books (except by purchase); and even if they knew just what they wanted as well as they would by the information this scheme would give, it would of course be far cheaper to pay postage than the cost of the books.

This expense, however, may be greatly lessened individually, by the establishment of clubs in each town, which should meet and select in unison such books as were desired, so that all could be sent in one package, and read interchangeably, thus making but a trifling expense with each sending.

I find I shall be able to arrange with the express companies so as to have a package of books sent out and returned at an expense approximating to carriage one way; and assuming that in a club of ten persons, sending for ten volumes, each book would be read by two or three of its members—thus making the assortment last at least one month—the yearly expense would be very small.

It is proposed that the use of this library shall be furnished without charge to some one person in each place who shall be instrumental in organizing such a club and afterward receive and distribute the books. Further information concerning this feature will be supplied on application.

The charge to be made for the use of this library should approximate to that usually made by permanent libraries, the intention being to supply at a lower rate.

Without at present fixing the rate positively, it is expected to be about \$3 per annum, or \$1 per quarter.

A complete catalogue will be printed, and supplied, at its cost, to each subscriber or club, and additional pages, containing new additions to the library, will be furnished monthly, or otherwise, without charge. It is expected that nearly all correspondence (except such as contained remittances) could be conducted by postal-card, thus saving much expense of postage. The aim will be to supply new literature as published, so that the library shall be on an equal footing with any in the country of similar extent.

In fact, it may seem the wiser course to provide at once only the nucleus of a library, containing perhaps two thousand volumes, or less, of the most thoroughly standard books, such as are demanded of the best circulating libraries, and add freely, as published, such current literature as shall be most sought; adding such a number of copies of the most popular books as shall promptly supply the demand from all quarters. This would place the library on a more liberal basis as to new books than any except the very few extensive libraries in our larger cities.

I have learned, since commencing to investigate the subject, that there is an extensive library of this sort in England (Mudie's Library, with which many of your readers are doubtless acquainted), and that it is a decided success. Mr. Fletcher (of the Watkinson Library here) tells me that Mudie often purchases an entire edition of some popular book (2000 volumes or more); and that when the "run" begins to cease, which probably happens in a few weeks, as something else is then ready, he rebinds such copies as need it, and offers for sale the greater number. He finds quite a ready sale, by offering at reduced rates, among other libraries or individual readers, who are thus enabled, at moderate prices, to obtain fresh literature almost as quickly as they would naturally get it if purchased directly from the dealer. In the event of operating the proposed library with reference to keeping up with recent publications, some such outlet as this could be provided for duplicate copies.

Doubtless there are very many of the smaller libraries throughout the country which might be thus induced to add a number of new books where now but few are added. By retaining one or more copies of each book so purchased, this library would constantly be augmented by additions of the very latest publications.

It might be thought by some that the successful development of such a scheme as this would retard the growth of local free libraries. I think, however, that a little reflection will convince any one that it would act as an incentive to that end, rather than a hindrance.

I am not a librarian, but a business man, with something of leisure to devote to the development of such an enterprise if it is acceptable.

I have had considerable experience in the book trade, and so have a general familiarity with the *outside* of books at least, and the measure of popularity with which they are re-

ceived—which is one of the indications as to the public demand.

I feel disposed to risk such a sum of money as will be necessary to test the question of its feasibility. If the subject interests your readers, I should be happy to accept any suggestions or criticisms which they may feel willing to offer, and will await such before making any definite plans. As yet I have decided upon no particular plan of operations.

JOHN R. ANDERSON.

THE LEEDS INDICATOR.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES, LEEDS,  
May 14, 1877.

To the Editor of the Library Journal:

In your issue of March you give a description of the Leeds Indicator and its working. There are a few points I ought to mention which I think will throw a little more light upon the subject. In the first place, the books in the Lending Library are not numbered by the shelf (as you state), but all books in each class are numbered consecutively, with breaks left between for additions to the different sizes. We find this system to be much superior to the shelf location, as the books are not required to be on any particular shelf, and a great amount of labor is saved in not having to use the ladders so much; for, supposing there are three fourths of the books out in circulation, many of the shelves would only have perhaps half a dozen books upon them, whereas we have them brought down so as to fill all the lower shelves, and seldom have to use the higher ones, except at the annual stock-taking. In the second place, there is a little misunderstanding as regards the entry of books. You say, "The card is retained and deposited in the pigeon-hole allotted to the book taken." This is correct, but the sentence following, "No other formality of registration is needed," is wrong, as each book, when given out, is entered upon a sheet of the following description to meet the necessity of recording the issues, and keeping a check upon those overdue:

Saturday, May 12, 1877.

Prog. No. (of Issue.)	Class and Number.	No. of Vols.	Borrower's No.	Date of Return.
1	E 4269	3	540	
2				

(This sheet can be dispensed with where no statistics, etc., are required.—J. Y.)

These sheets, which are double-columned, hold fifty entries on each side, and are loose, so that the following day this day's issues can be removed to the receiving or return counter, and inserted in a spring cover with the previous entries.

When a person has consulted the Indicator and fixed upon a certain book, he asks at the issue-counter for the number—for instance, E 4269. The assistant gives him the book, upon the receipt of his card, upon which the following entry is then made: | 1 | 12 May | E 4269 | and it is also entered upon the librarian's sheet as above. When the book is returned, the date is placed in the column for that purpose, and the card given to the borrower.

In the third place, I wish to point out that delinquents are at once discovered by running through the issue sheets and referring to the undated entries. One month is allowed to elapse, and if at the end of that time the book is not returned, a postal card is sent to the borrower, and a memorandum made of it in the "Outstanding Book."

The Indicator system has now been in use at Leeds for over five years, and has been found to work admirably. In fact, I doubt very much if any other system would bear the strain which has been put upon it, and permit the reading taste to develop so progressively.

Three objections are cited against the Indicator: 1. The difficulty in recording statistics of circulation. You will see that, by our system of entry, it is only the work of a few minutes to cast them up daily. 2. The expense (which is a mere trifle for the labor it saves). The Indicator costs £4 per thousand numbers, which occupy one square yard, and includes frame, glass, sash, tins, cut grooves, and plinths to hide the latter. 3. The space required, which is, as I have already said, one square yard per thousand; and it would be impossible to place before the public the titles of a thousand volumes in such a limited space as in the manner suggested.

JAMES YATES.

MR. GUILD AND THE SUNDAY QUESTION.

BROWN UNIVERSITY, July 30, 1877.

To the Editor of the Library Journal:

"I rise to explain." In your last number you refer to Mr. Guild's suggestion, in the Government Report, in regard to reference books being placed together in a room which should be accessible and open on Sundays. Now the

fact is, some one else made this suggestion. In the next place, I never have favored, and do not now favor, the opening of libraries, at least college libraries, on Sundays. "Six days shalt thou labor" applies to all men, including librarians. No college professor, even though his chair should be that of metaphysics and ethics, would think of meeting his class on the Sabbath. Why should the librarian, then, continue his labors on that day? Again, the opening of a college library on the Sabbath, however pleasant and agreeable to some, would be regarded on the whole as a desecration of the Lord's day, and hence would in my judgment be detrimental to religion and morals.

R. A. GUILD.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY.

EDITED BY CHARLES A. CUTTER.

#### II. RECORD OF RECENT ISSUES.

##### A. Library economy and history, Library reports.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY. 25th annual report; including summaries of the past history and experiences of the Library. [Boston, 1877.] 123 p. O. [478]

Accessions, 15,169 v.; total, 312,010, of which Bates Hall has 208,441, the Lower (or popular) Hall, 35,478, the branches, 69,125; issues, 1,140,572, 20 per cent more than the year before. In the reading rooms 339,514 readers used 424,664 periodicals. Missing 129 v., or one in each 4600 issued.

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY, *Balt.* Organization of the Library. (Pages 30-33 of 2d annual report, Jan. 1., *Balt.*, pr. by J. Murphy & Co., *Balt.*, 1877. 49 + [1] p. O.) [479]

Purchases, 3142 v. @ \$2.40; presented, 859 v.; present total, 4600 v. and 315 pam.; 207 periodicals taken. The departments of the University are to have special libraries.

MERCANTILE LIB. ASSOC. OF N. Y. 56th annual report, May 1877-Apr. 1877. N. Y., Terwilliger & Peck, pr., 1877. 40 p. 8°. [480]

Accessions, 10,198 v.; total, 171,492; issues, 188,850; of which 46,087 were distributed from the branch office, and 5436 delivered at members' residences; issues in foreign languages, 11,662; issues of magazines, 7344; books of reference used in the library, 12,830; a new catalogue of fiction pub. at 75 c., only 182 copies sold. It is proposed to provide room for 50,000 more v.

SYDNEY FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY. Report from Trustees, for 1876. Sydney, C. Potter, acting govt. pr., 1877. 6 p. f°. [481]

No. of vols., 29,495; estimated number used during the year, 161,728. Arrangements are in progress for the establishment of a lending branch, for which 2000 vols. have been ordered from London. New catalogue in the press. The Trustees speak of the necessity of proceeding with a new building, for which Parliament voted money 50 for back as 1862.—C. W. SUTTON.

#### B. Library catalogues.

APPRENTICES' LIBRARY, N. Y. Bulletin, no. 2.

Books added Sept. 1876 to Sept. 1877. [N. Y., 1877.] 18 p. Q. [482]

13 classes alphabetically arranged, with alph. sub-classes. The first printed catalogue, except this Bibliography, in which the Association symbols T S D O Q F have been used.

AXON, W. E. A. Notabilia Bibliothecæ Chethamensis. [Manchester.] 1877, 19 Jun. 16 p. O. [483]

LANCASTER (*Mass.*) FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY. Catalogue complete, Apr. 1, 1877. Pr. for the Town by Estes and Lauriat, n. d. p. O. By Miss Alice G. Chandler, and from a card catalogue made by her and Miss Anna H. Whitney in 1872-3. An asyndetic dictionary catalogue, without imprints. Printed on manila paper.

MACCLESFIELD PUBLIC FREE LIBRARY, *Eng.* Catalogue; [compiled by W. E. A. Axon]. Macclesfield, pr. by Clarson and Baker, 1877. viii + 160 p. O. [485]

A classified (11 classes), one-line catalogue without imprints, with index of titles of works of fiction, and index of subjects, but no index of authors.

#### C. Bibliography.

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS. List of new books on engineering and technology. Pub. in the Proceedings, Nov. 1875-Apr. 1877. [N. Y., 1877.] 63 p. O. [486]

Arranged alphabetically by subjects. To be continued.

AXON, W. E. A. The smallest books in the world. Repr. fr. Notes and q., Oct. 2, 1876. Not pub., Guardian Letterpress Works, Manchester, n. d. 6 p. O. [487]

MULLER, FREDERIK, & Co. Catalogue of books, etc., on North and South America. Amst., 1877. [1] + 218 + [3] p. Sq. O. [488]

#### 3. CONTENTS OF PERIODICALS.

*Polybiblion*, ptie. lit., July.—Romans, contes, et nouvelles; par Firmin Boissin.—Comt. rend.—La Bibliothèque Municipale de Montpellier.—Proverbes. [489]

#### 4. REFERENCES TO PERIODICALS.

*The Canton celebration*; by Rob. Edm. Graves.—*Academy*, June 30, July 7, 14, 21. [490]

*A conference of librarians*.—*London telegraph* July 31. 1 col. [491]

Humorous.

*The conference of librarians*.—*Academy*, July 21, (1 col.), reprinted in *Boston d. advertiser*, Aug. 6. [492]

*The future of the [Boston] Public Library.*—  
*Boston Herald*, Aug. 1. ½ col. [493]

"We call attention to the slowly growing belief that the library is approaching the maximum of expenditure that the city can wisely devote to this purpose. It has passed beyond a mere collection of books for the use of the public, and is now a great library, demanding that close attention and perpetual expansion that this latter term suggests. How far is this to go? There is no other municipal government in the world that spends annually on its library as much as does our own. The cost of maintaining the institution is advancing much faster than the taxable wealth of the city; while the increase in circulation is in no small degree due to the unpopular enactment which reduces the time during which a book can be retained, from a fortnight to one week. A rule, by the way, which is a direct obstacle to the careful, studious reading of books of a high literary grade. Now, in all probability these increases in expense will go on, until suddenly it will be discovered that the city is paying more money for this purpose than it can afford to, and, as the library is dependent for its support on popular sympathy, a reaction of this kind would seriously, if not permanently, impair its usefulness."

The critic then instances the purchase of the Barton Shakespearian library: "The money thus invested was simply thrown away. The collection has no popular value, and the volumes composing it, even should there be a demand for them, could not from their great rarity be given out to the public. So, too, with the various expensively illustrated works or books of rare foreign editions, that, as far as the ordinary reader is concerned, are glued to the shelves by the various *stars* of the catalogue; they have rightly no place in a collection of this order, which is intended not so much for the delight of the hypercritical few as for the edification of the great mass of the people. In a word, if the institution is to retain its hold on the public, its managers will have to content themselves with a narrow and restricted path of progress, aiming not so much to make a great and symmetrical library, as to supply the people with the mental food they desire."

See also "A popular demand," p. 449.

*Note on the 25th report of the Boston Public Lib.*;  
[by C. A. Cutter].—*Nation*, Aug. 16. ½ col.

Occasioned by the article just quoted and its "narrow and restricted" views of the function of a public library. Thinks that the managers could present a satisfactory reply. "They might say, for instance, that they are between two millstones: that the library has always been very freely blamed for being too 'popular,' for buying too much of Oliver Optic and Horatio Alger and Mrs. Southworth. They might urge that they have more than \$100,000 of trust funds, given, in nearly every case, to be spent 'in the purchase of books of permanent value,' and that the city appropriations for books have been almost religiously used 'to supply the people with the mental food they desire.' They might suggest that scholars are a part of the people and have some rights, and that any one of the 'people' may develop the tastes of a scholar; that, in fact, this is one of the purposes for which the library was established, one of the chief ends at which it has always been aiming; that, moreover, a large part of the works to which the critic objects are gifts, and many more such will be given, in single volumes, in small collections, and in whole libraries, if it is understood that they will be welcomed and

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well cared for, and not thought out of place there; that if Boston desires to see costly donations turn away from the doors of her library and seek other resting-places, where a kinder reception is promised, she has only to make it clearly understood that she does not desire 'expensively illustrated works, rare foreign editions, and books which from their great rarity cannot be given out to the public,' or that if she accepts them as gifts she grudges the money which it takes to house and catalogue and care for them. And let her add that she does this because none of her inhabitants desire or can assimilate the mental food which such works offer. Such a declaration, though somewhat premature, would not be altogether out of accord with the change which is slowly creeping over the character of that city."

*Notice of the Brooklyn catalogue*; [by C. R. Miller].—*N. Y. Times*, June 25. 1 col. [495]

*The Public Library, past and future*; [by C. C. Smith].—*Bost. d. advertiser*, Aug. 16. ½ col.

"There has always been more or less of uneasiness among the friends of the library outside of the city government and of the board of trustees, at its actual and obvious dependence on the good-will of a body of men into whose election party and ward politics largely enter. The successive grants of additional powers to the trustees show what has been the tendency and the strength of public opinion. But these grants have not gone far enough; and the feeling of insecurity to which we have referred still exists among many persons. They do not feel that the future is altogether secure. In the record of the past twenty-five years they find a wise policy firmly adhered to; and if they had a strong and abiding faith that the same policy would be pursued in the future, and would not be liable to be changed in obedience to some imagined exigency of party politics, they would enrich the library collections with other bequests of money or books. What the library now needs is to be placed on such a basis that no sudden and violent changes in the constitution of its board of managers shall be possible, and that its various officers and employees shall feel reasonably sure of the permanency of their relations to the library, and that their salaries will be established by the persons best qualified to estimate the value of their services."

*The publisher and the libraries*.—*Publ. weekly*, Aug. 11. 1½ col. [497]

*Rare bequests*; [by J. M. Hubbard].—*Bost. d. advertiser*, Aug. 11. ½ col. [498]

Describes two bequests lately received by the Boston Public Lib., one from Broj. P. Hunt, of Phila., of 700 v., relating to Hayti, the other from Miss E. M. Thayer, of Roxbury, of 200 v., many of them costly and elegantly bound; among others was a copy of Granger's *Biog. History of England*, extended from 6 to 21 folio v., and the *Galerie hist. de Versailles*, in 2 folio v., of which a copy lately sold at auction for \$300.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS.

THEOLOGICAL BIBLIOGRAPHY.—REV. J. W. HURST, D.D., President of Drew Theological Seminary, Madison, N. J., has well advanced toward completion a select classed bibliography of theological books in English, for the use of clergymen and students. It is proposed to in-

clude about four thousand full titles—prices not given—with notes. The main divisions will be "Introductory," including ecclesiastical bibliography, the study of theology, etc., "Scriptural Exegesis," "Historical Theology," "Systematic Theology," "Practical Theology." The leading lectures, Bampton, Hulsean, etc., will be entered by series complete. There will be an alphabetical index by authors, referring to page number. Dr. Hurst would be obliged to bibliographers, to whom his bibliographical appendix to his *History of Rationalism* has already made him known, for information of any theological bibliographies which from their rarity he is likely to have overlooked. [499]

The *Biblioteka Warszawska* for April has an article (continued in the May no.) on Assur-banipal and his library, by Radzinski. [500]

### PSEUDONYMS AND ANONYMS.

EDITED BY JAMES L. WHITNEY.

#### PSEUDONYMS.

*Gustave d'Alaux*.—Maxime Raybaud, consul-general of France at Hayti, wrote "L'empereur Souloouque et son empire, par Gustave d'Alaux" (Paris, 1856; in English, Richmond, 1861). The authority for this statement is the late Benjamin P. Hunt, who was for some time resident at Hayti, and whose library of books on the West Indies has been recently added by bequest to the Boston Public Library. This pseudonym is not to be found in Quérard and other French authorities.

*Mrs. Alexander*.—The full name of the author of "The Wooing O'1," etc., is Annie F. Hector, wife of the late Alexander Hector.

*Alexis Bartevelle*.—*Dupré*—*Armand Duplessis*.—*Fernand de Lisle*.—*Edmond Nouel*.—*A. D. S.*—Edmond de Manne, whose writings have appeared under all of the above names, has recently died in Paris. His "Nouveau dictionnaire des ouvrages anonymes et pseudonymes," although lacking the fulness of bibliographical details to be found in the more widely known works of Barbier and Quérard, is still worthy of being ranked with them as keys to the anonymous and pseudonymous literature of France.

Manne entered the service of the Bibliothèque Nationale (Royale) in 1820, and left it in 1866 with the title "Conservateur adjoint honoraire," and having received the decoration of the Legion of Honor.

The first edition of the Dictionary appeared

in 1834, under his own name, and that of his father, Louis Charles Joseph Demanne, who was a conservateur in the Bibliothèque Nationale. It contained 2131 titles, while in the third edition, published in 1868, there are 4616.

Two things are to be noted in connection with Edmond de Manne, in which he is a type of a class of French authors who are a puzzle, if not a plague, to cataloguers: 1. The difference in the form of his name from that used by his father and by himself until 1858. For this change, according to Georges d'Heylli (Antoine Edmond Poinssot), he obtained legal authority. Moreover, the name of the family, which is of Dutch origin, is said to be Van Mann. 2. The variety of pseudonyms under which his works appeared. This latter circumstance would make him and all Protean writers like him exceptions to the proposed rule of entering pseudonymous works under the assumed or literary name rather than the real one.

*Carlopage*.—The poet Carl Ziegler died in Vienna, on the 20th of May, aged sixty-five. He wrote, under the pseudonym Carlopage, "Himmel und Erde," "Vom Kothurn der Lyrik," and other poems.

*Jean Dolent*, author of "Le livre d'art des femmes" (Paris, 1877), is Antoine Fournier.

*Gerda Fay*, author of "Baby-land" (London, 1877), is Caroline M. Gemmer.

*Louis Jacob de Saint-Charles*.—Under the title "Une poignée de pseudonymes français," the Père P. Clauer, in the July number of *Études religieuses*, etc., par des Pères de la Compagnie de Jésus (pp. 74-89), describes an unpublished work in manuscript on French pseudonyms by the Père Louis Jacob de Saint-Charles, who lived from 1608 to 1670.

The bibliographical and other works of this author are well known, and his unpublished writings are quoted by later authors. This manuscript is entitled "Bibliotheca personata," etc. Its place of deposit is mentioned by the Père Cosme de Villiers, who quotes from it in his "Bibliotheca Carmelitana" (Orléans, 1752). It is now in the possession of Clauer, who has discovered the name of the author, and has given in his review a selection from its pseudonyms.

*Lagrange*.—The death of Augustin Cardeilhac is recently announced. He has written in connection with others many plays under the pseudonym of Lagrange.



## NOTES AND QUERIES

## NOTES.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL FUN.—I noticed the other day that a recently published catalogue of antiquarian books places the "Frogs" of Aristophanes under the head of natural history—class, reptiles. This reminds one of the catalogue in which the immortal Pindar in the original Greek appears as Peter Pinlar. The cataloguer evidently had supplied the initial from his memory of the comic English writer who writes under that pseudonym. In the same college I once discovered a set of sturdy German quartos catalogued under the name of Jahrgang, I. The "artist" who prepared the cards, being questioned, explained that he only read German sufficiently for cataloguing, but that he could see clearly that this was by Mr. Isaac Jahrgang. So even cataloguing is not always the solemnest work, and I fancy that some of the older craftsmen could reveal many and funny items.

H. M.

GENERAL NOTES IN CATALOGUES AND REPORTS.—In the class lists of the Leeds (Eng.) libraries any space left in the last form as made up for printing is filled out by apt extracts pertaining to books, reading, or to the library itself. In this country, many library reports have matter designed to interest the people in libraries and their best use, quite independent of the report proper. Some give extracts from the JOURNAL, or summaries of opinions expressed in the report or at the conference. It is hardly expected that a large number of people in any given community will read either the Government Report or the JOURNAL, and it therefore seems well to put into the local reports and papers, which circulate widely, such short paragraphs as will tend to give the best ideas of libraries, books, and reading. For example: the recently issued report of the Bigelow Free Library at Clinton, Mass., gives five pages of such matter, and as the school and library reports are printed together, this will reach the thinking people of the town very thoroughly. It is surprising how much more public support may often be gained by attention to such means of awakening interest.

## QUERIES.

STUDENTS' ROOMS.—Have any of the American libraries special rooms for the use of the students, distinct from the reading-rooms? If so, how are they managed, and are they esteemed a success?

[22

## GENERAL NOTES.

## UNITED STATES.

NEW YORK MERCANTILE LIBRARY.—This library, heretofore open during the entire summer, is now closed to admit of radical changes in its interior arrangement. The library has long been in need of more space to properly accommodate its additions. The Association took possession of its present quarters, Clinton Hall, in April, 1854, at which time the library numbered 42,795 volumes. It has now 473,494 volumes exclusive of pamphlets, an increase in 23 years of 130,699 volumes. As heretofore arranged, the book-room has been on the third floor, encircled by three tiers of alcoves extending to the roof, a distance of 22 feet. The reading-room, occupying 85 by 100 feet, has been on the second floor. The distribution of books has been made from the third floor, thus compelling the members to climb several flights of stairs for their books. It is now proposed to reverse this order, and the room on the second floor is being arranged for the accommodation of between forty and fifty thousand volumes, and the delivery will be from the centre of this room. The reference department, which was formerly divided, part being on the second floor and the remainder on the third floor, will now be entirely on the second floor. The reading room will be transferred to the third floor and occupy the space in the rotunda formerly used for the book distribution. The great racks used in the old room for the newspapers will be dispensed with and hand files substituted. These changes, while affording accommodations for the accessions that may be made for several years to come, will also, it is thought, greatly popularize the library. It is hoped to reopen the Library on Monday, September 3d. One of the rules of this library, for six or seven years past, has been to allow any member about to go in the country for the summer, and whose subscription has been paid beyond the 1st of September, to take five books in addition to the regular one, six in all, on the payment of an extra dollar. This plan, with some extra pushing this year, has become very popular and works to entire satisfaction. The Association, which has \$70,000 set aside as a fund for a new building, is looking for a site between Twenty-third and Thirty-fourth streets.

NEWBERRY LIBRARY.—The Circuit Court of Chicago made a decision, on the 28th of July, in a case of the Heirs vs. the Trustees of the

Newberry estate, which is very favorable to the interests of the Newberry Library. The trustees had interpreted the will to mean that the estate of \$5,000,000 was not to be divided between the heirs and the library until after the death of the widow. The will made provision for the widow in legacies and annuities, all which she renounced, and took her rights of dower instead. The heirs in the case lately tried claimed that this renunciation terminated her rights and legal status in the will as thoroughly as if she were dead; that the "surviving descendants" of the testator's brothers and sisters meant those surviving the last daughter (who died in April, 1876), and not those who might survive the widow, who, by her renunciation, was, under the will, the same as dead before the last daughter died. The Court has taken this view in its decision, and has directed that this immense property be divided immediately—one half to the heirs, and one half for the establishment of the Newberry Library. The case is appealed to the Supreme Court, but the decision of the Circuit Court will most likely be sustained. W. F. P.

PHILADELPHIA MERCANTILE LIBRARY.—Repairs are progressing on the recent damages through fire, and the building will be ready for occupancy some time next month. Improvements will be made by the addition of a new skylight, windows, and galleries that will reach around the sides of the building, affording space for at least one hundred thousand more volumes. Over fifty thousand books were injured by water, nearly all of which have had to be rebound. Not one was found directly injured by fire. Some of the more valuable works have been sadly damaged. Audubon's "Birds" was wet to some extent, but the illustrations, being lithographed and printed, were but slightly damaged. The fine copies of Hall's "American Indians" and Wilson's "Ornithology" (probably the finest copy in existence—a presentation copy to some eminent and intimate friend of the author), both colored by hand, in water-colors, have been ruined by the colors running into each other.

LIBRARY TAXATION IN NEW YORK.—The American Geographical Society claimed exemption from taxation for its house at No. 11 West Twenty-ninth street, New York City, on the ground that this building was taken for its library, which library, the chief purpose of its incorporation, is open to the free use of the

public, and that it thus comes within the statute exempting from taxation buildings for free public libraries. The Tax Commissioners demurred on the ground that the charter of the society does not bind it to maintain a library which shall be open to the public. The Supreme Court, General Term, decided July 6th, Judge Barrett giving the decision, that the library is clearly a free library, and the building which shelters it is entitled to exemption from taxation.

STUDIES AT HOME.—The (Boston) Society to encourage studies at home recommend works for reading, and offer to give advice about the purchase of books, when made in Boston or New York. They also loan books, when necessary, and have now 231 volumes, of which 178 are kept in Boston, 25 in New York, and 28 in Louisiana. The circulation from the Boston library has been 258 volumes during the term. When a book is wanted for immediate use it is bought, even if other copies of the same work are already owned by the society, and the funds will always be freely used for this purpose. The charge is reduced to one cent a day during use, and transportation on returning the volumes. A fourth lending library is to be established in California.

WOBURN [Mass.] PUBLIC LIBRARY.—The building, soon to be erected, will be 165 feet in length, and 70 feet in width. The east end will form an octagonal dome, a covered apartment to be used as a museum of natural history. The first floor of the main building will be arranged for a picture gallery, and the second floor for offices, etc. The library will be located in a wing extending westerly, and having accommodations for 50,000 volumes, and will be separated from the main building by an iron curtain, to provide against fire. The building, which is to cost \$71,625.50, will have a base of red Westerly granite, and walls and tower of McGregor sandstone, relieved with Ohio stone of a lighter shade, and will be completed October 1, 1878.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY.—Mr. Winsor retires from the Boston Public Library September 1. No choice of a successor has yet been made, but it is said that the trustees propose to elect Dr. Samuel A. Green, one of the trustees and City Physician, superintendent to fill the vacancy until a decision can be reached. Mr. James F. Bugbee's name is mentioned by the *Traveller*, but it is added that he would not ac-

cept. It is intended to so change the organization of the Board of Trustees that hereafter the superintendent will not be required to assume alone all the duties which have been fulfilled by Mr. Winsor.

**A POPULAR DEMAND.**—"Say, mister," said a small boy to one of the assistants at the public library, "I can't find the books I want to git into these here catalogs. I wish yer'd find 'im for me." "What work do you wish to draw?" paternally inquired the official. "Well, hev yet got 'Mulligan the Masher, or the Gory Galoot of the Galtees'?" The man shook his head. "Well, I'd like 'Red Headed Ralph, the Ranger of the Roaring Rialto.'" "We don't keep any of that kind of trash, my boy." "Wot sort of a libery is this, anyway?" retorted the gainin'; "wy, it's just like everythin' else in this country—run for the rich, an' the poor workin' man gits no show at all."—*Boston Traveller*.

**CLEVELAND LIBRARY.**—At a recent meeting of the Cleveland Library Association, the annual fee for membership in the association was reduced from three dollars to one. The library is now understood to be permanently established on a basis of great advantage. By the munificence of Mr. Case, the entire Case Building is the perpetual property of the association. The income of the building is devoted to the increase and maintenance of the library.

**PEORIA (ILL.) MERCANTILE LIBRARY.**—Plans for this library have recently been submitted by the architect to Mr. Wm. F. Poole, under whose advice the original plans have been abandoned and new ones made. In the new plans no galleries are admitted; everything is to be on the ground floor. Room will be provided for 25,000 volumes, and every book located within thirty feet from the delivery-desk.

Efforts are being made in San Francisco to establish a free library.

A citizen of New York has presented the Rev. John Miller's recent work on "Metaphysics" to two hundred of the chief libraries of Europe, through the Smithsonian Institution.

#### CANADA.

The fire set by the rebellious Oka Indians to the Roman Catholic church at Oka destroyed a valuable library of 1000 volumes, partly in the Indian tongues.

#### GREAT BRITAIN.

**PROVINCIAL BIBLIOGRAPHY.**—The annual volume of the Manchester Literary Club of the principal papers read before it during the session of 1876-7 has an appendix containing a list of the notabilia of the Chetham Library, and of the Lancashire and Cheshire publications issued during 1876, including privately printed works and the volumes published by the scientific and literary societies of the two counties. Altogether 267 publications are enumerated, and the list brings out the noteworthy fact that of these only thirty-one are entered in the English Catalogue for 1876, thus showing that a large proportion of the works printed outside of London escape the notice of the editors of the existing trade periodicals.

**MANCHESTER FREE LIBRARIES.**—The committee have received permission from the City Council to use the old Town Hall for the purposes of a central reference library, until they can secure a suitable site in a central position for the erection of a permanent reference library. A number of reference works have been stored in the branch libraries on account of the weakness and incapacity of the building at Campfield.

A volume of verse by Mr. E. B. Nicholson, Librarian of the London Institution, entitled "The Christ Child and other Poems," is to be published by Messrs. Henry S. King & Co.

The catalogue of the Arabic mss., in the library of the India House, made by Prof. O. Loth, of Leipzig, has recently been issued. The collection contains 1050 numbers, and is chiefly important for Mohammedan law, philosophy and theology, and, in some respects, for poetry.

#### FRANCE.

**BIBLIOTHÈQUE NATIONALE.**—The Marquis Girolamo d'Adda gave a copy of his "Indagini stor., artist. e bibliog. sulla libreria Visconteo-Sforzesca del castello di Pavia," Milan, 1875, 8, to the Bibliothèque Nationale. The library of the Dukes of Milan was one of the collections which formed in the château of Blois the nucleus of the National Library; and in the book he entered this dedication: "To the National Library of Paris, multarum Italicarum spoliis superba, an Italian bibliophile always inconsolable for the grievous loss of the library of the castle of Pavia, offers, with no retrospective rancor and as a respectful homage, this inventory and these documents which present its history."—*Bibliog. de la France*.

M. FERDINAND DUVAL, Prefect of the Seine, is effecting an interchange of publications treating of civic administration, etc., with the principal cities of Europe and America, with a view to form a library of documents from all countries relating to municipal questions.

## GERMANY.

THE LEIPSIK REALSCHULE Society proposes the erection of a public pedagogical library.

THE VERCIN für die Verbreitung christlicher Schriften in Sachsen, which met lately in Dresden, distributed last year 60 popular libraries, 6 prison libraries, and 1 hospital library.

THE UNIVERSITY of Strasburg Library, which in 1873 consisted of 220,000 volumes, has now nearly 400,000; while the number of books lent out annually has risen from 4920 in 1872 to 48,500 in 1876.

THE DIRECTORS of the "Albrecht Dürer-Haus-Stiftung" announce that they intend to found a complete Dürer library in the house of the artist, and beg for gifts of books about Dürer and his contemporaries, reproductions of his works, etc.

HERR ROSENTHAL, bookseller at Munich, sent lately an advertisement of his "Bibliotheca Catholico-theologica" to the *Univers*, and it was returned with the information that the papers of the clerical party at Paris had agreed not to receive advertisements from Germans.

## AUSTRIA.

ON May 13 occurred the centennial of the founding by Maria Theresa of the Vienna University Library. In 1800 it had only 75,000 volumes; it now has over 240,000, and is increasing at the rate of 8000 volumes.

## HUNGARY.

THE CORVINIAN LIBRARY remnant presented by Sultan Abdul Hamid to Hungary has turned out to be of but little value. All the volumes are rebound, most of them are only reprints of Greek and Roman classics, and, according to the authority of Prof. Vambéry and M. Pulszky, but the smallest number are Corvinian.

## NETHERLANDS.

THE FIRM of J. B. Wolters, of Groningen, has presented to the Royal Library at the Hague copies of all its publications as a mark of recognition of the help it has always afforded to the scientific public.

## ITALY.

ROME PUBLIC LIBRARY.—Prof. Ant. Sarti has

given to the city his library of 10,000 volumes, chiefly on the fine arts. It will be placed near the Mausoleum of Augustus, in charge of the Acad. Rom. di Belle Arte di San Luca; and the city has engaged to print a catalogue before it is opened to the public.

## RUSSIA.

THE BIBLIOTHECA Palæstinensis of the late Dr. Tobler has been purchased, says the *Allgemeine Zeitung*, by the Imperial Library at St. Petersburg. M. Léouzon-le-Duc has published an account of the French MSS. in this library.

## BRAZIL.

THE first two fasciculi of the Annals of the National Library of Rio de Janeiro contain papers on Brazilian bibliography, in which books are described which are only to be found in the Rio Library.

## CHINA.

THE Polytechnic Institution and Reading Room at Shanghai, founded by a few representative Europeans and Chinese, has been so far but poorly attended. The library contains some valuable Chinese books, ancient and modern. Among them are about twenty works recently translated for the Chinese provincial government.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

NECROLOGY.—We regret to record the recent deaths of Professor Oram W. Morris, librarian of the Cooper Union, New York, a descendant of Robert Morris, and formerly a professor in the New York deaf and dumb asylum, where he is said to have been the first to teach deaf mutes the language of the lips; Fr. Alph. Belin, born 1817, author of a *Bibliographie ottomane* (1868-69); and Omer Aug. Vaudoir-Lainé, born 1844, assistant at the Bibliothèque de l'Arsenal and at the Bibliothèque de Sainte Geneviève.

## PUBLISHER'S NOTE.

THIS number is mailed in advance of date so that readers of the JOURNAL may have full knowledge of the Conference and of the matters to be brought before it sufficiently in advance of the meeting to enable them to come well prepared for its discussions. Mr. Cutter's index to the volume closing with this number will be ready about the first of the month, but in preference to holding back this issue, it has been decided to supply it at the Conference to those subscribers who wish it then, and to mail it to others with the next number of the JOURNAL.

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"Our hope that there may be many readers of this book we will not disguise. There are ill-founded prejudices against a man in whom there was much of good, which it will serve to remove. There is a just verdict yet to be rendered upon his undeniably important part in some of the most signal religious and reformatory movements of the century, which it will help to frame. There was in him a consciousness of God, a sense of enjoyment in communion with him, a melting and moving love to man, a courage in performance of duty, an honesty and fearlessness of opinion and its expression, a thirst for truth and learning, and an industry and diligence of habit by which every acquaintance, even through this imperfect medium, should be stimulated to new endeavor and attainment. All these wholesome lessons can certainly be learned of his example."—*The Congregationalist (Boston)*.

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"This kingly man, the greatest of the immortal brotherhood of German thinkers, stands before us in Mr. Lewes' book in his just proportions and character. If ever there were an honest biography, this is one. It gives us Goethe the man, as he lived and moved, with all his greatness and failings, his marvellous perfection of faculty, and his human defects,—not Goethe the demigod, worshipped at ten thousand German altars. The work is now the hone test, most complete, and worthy memorial of Goethe in existence."—*London Daily News*.

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It is safe to say that no public library is complete without "The Life and Death of Jason," "The Earthly Paradise," "The Story of Sigurd the Volsung." These poems have received the meed of praise from the ablest critics in England and in this country. The *Pall Mall Gazette*, reviewing "The Earthly Paradise," says:

"Mr. MORRIS, by his previously published book, 'The Life and Death of Jason,' placed his name definitely on the roll of poets, in an age by no means poor in good poetry. The volume now before us, of far larger scheme than the former, attests still more strongly the fertility of its author's genius, his independence and individuality of manner, and will be sure to extend, as it certainly will confirm, his reputation."

The *New York Times*, in an able review of "Sigurd," says:

"If poetic fame can be earned by weight of books and accumulation of verses, WILLIAM MORRIS must be considered one of the foremost poets of the day. The stream that began to flow so full and so pleasantly in the *Earthly Paradise* shows no signs of diminution. On the contrary, we have in the *Story of Sigurd* a perfect fresher of rhyme on whose broad bosom we see gliding past us the greater part of Scandinavian mythology and heroic legend. There is no weakening in the hand that spins off line after line, canto after canto."

The *Philadelphia Press* says of it that "Mr. MORRIS has produced the great heroic poem of the age."

The *London Athenæum*, in reviewing Mr. MORRIS's translation of "The Æneids," says:

"The most satisfactory attempt that has yet been made to present the greatest of Roman poets to English readers. . . . Whether any Keats of the twenty-second century will immortalize Mr. Morris by his gratitude we cannot say; but we predict that our great-grandchildren will consider not the least claim to remembrance possessed by the author of 'The Earthly Paradise' to be that he was the translator of 'Virgil.'"

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